

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 HA-05 PM-05
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PA-02 ICA-20 /111 W
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R 051545Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5627
INFO AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PINR, LY
SUBJECT: TRIPOLI WATCH: COMINGS AND GOINGS JUNE 21-30, 1978

I. ARRIVALS --

1. ARAB LEAGUE. DR. AL-TAYYIB AL-HUDAYRI, DIRECTOR OF THE ARAB LABOR ORGANIZATION OF THE ARAB LEAGUE, VISITED LIBYA JUNE 27-29 TO MEET WITH LIBYAN OFFICIALS INCLUDING "PRIME MINISTER" ABD AL-ATI UBAYDI. VISIT WAS AT THE INVITATION OF LABOR SECRETARY MAHJUB.
2. FRANCE. LOCAL MEDIA ANNOUNCED THAT JEAN LEPKOWITSKI THE SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE GAULLIST RPR PARTY ARRIVED ON A SHORT VISIT JUNE 30. VISIT WAS "INTER-PARTY" AND WAS ARRANGED BY AHMAD SHAHATI OF THE FOREIGN LIAISON BUREAU OF THE GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS DURING HIS BRIEF VISIT TO FRANCE IN MAY (TRIPOLI 0778). THE AGENDA INCLUDED UNCLASSIFIED

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A MEETING WITH LIBYAN NUMBER TWO JALUD JULY 2. FRENCH EMBASSY INDICATES THAT THE CHAD RECONCILIATION TALKS AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS GENERALLY WERE THE TOPICS OF CONVERSATION.

3. GAMBIA. AN AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION ARRIVED JUNE 20. SCHEDULE INCLUDED VISITS TO DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THROUGH-

OUT LIBYA. THIS IS ONE OF SEVERAL GAMBIAN DELEGATIONS WHICH HAVE VISITED TRIPOLI THIS YEAR, GENERALLY UNDER LIBYAN GOVERNMENT SPONSORSHIP. THE HEAD OF THE JOINT LIBYAN-GAMBIAN TRANSPORT COMPANY ALSO ARRIVED FOR TALKS WITH HIS COUNTERPARTS JUNE 30.

4. INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR TRADE. THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE IFT ADAM GERTESIAN (PHONETIC) BEGAN A VISIT TO LIBYA JUNE 21 AT THE INVITATION OF THE ARAB TRADE UNION FOR BANKS AND INSURANCE COMPANIES. GERTESIAN WAS RECEIVED BY LABOR AND CIVIL SERVICE SECRETARY MUHAMMAD MAHJUB AND OTHER OFFICIALS. A SIMILAR VISIT WAS UNDERTAKEN EARLIER IN THE MONTH BY THE (UNIDENTIFIED) HEAD OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. NO FURTHER DETAILS ON THESE VISITS WERE DISCLOSED.

5. ISLAMIC CONGRESS. GENERAL SECRETARY ABD AL-KARIM GAYE (PHONETIC) ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI JUNE 23 COMING FROM SANA. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, HE STRESSED THE NEED TO PROMOTE AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION IN AFRICA IN THE FACE OF "ZIONIST AND IRANIAN" AMBITIONS. HE DEPLORED THE SITUATION OF BURMESE MOSLEM REFUGEES AND NOTED THAT A DELEGATION WAS RECENTLY SENT TO BANGLADESH TO INVESTIGATE THEIR SITUATION (TRIPOLI 0778). MEDIA REPORT HE LEFT FOR DAMASCUS JUNE 27 TO DISCUSS RELATIONS OF THE CONGRESS
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WITH THE PLO AND SYRIA.

6. MALTA. EDUCATION MINISTER PHILIP MUSCAT ARRIVED ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT JUNE 30 IN ORDER TO DISCUSS FURTHER COOPERATION BETWEEN LIBYA AND MALTA IN THE EDUCATION FIELD, INCLUDING ADDITIONAL LIBYAN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ARABIC LANGUAGE TRAINING IN MALTA.

7. UNITED NATIONS. MR. NICHOL DAVIDSON, DIRECTOR OF THE UN INSTITUTE FOR DIPLOMATIC STUDIES AND TRAINING, ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI JUNE 21 AT THE INVITATION OF THE FOREIGN SECRETARIAT. PURPOSE OF THE VISIT (THE SECOND THIS YEAR) WAS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON ESTABLISHING A COOPERATIVE PROGRAM WITH LIBYA'S INSTITUTE FOR DIPLOMATIC STUDIES.

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8. SUDAN. SUDANESE OPPOSITION FIGURE SHARIF AL-HINDI IS CURRENTLY IN BENGHAZI ACCORDING TO RELIABLE SOURCES. AL-HINDI REGULARLY COMMUTES BETWEEN LONDON AND LIBYA AND HAS MADE FOUR SEPARATE TRIPS SINCE MAY 1. HIS LATEST VISIT STARTED JUNE 16. MEANWHILE, A DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE SUDANESE OIL WORKERS' UNION ARRIVED EARLIER THIS MONTH AND MET WITH OFFICIALS OF THE ARAB LIAISON BUREAU OF THE GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS JUNE 26. THEY ALSO MET WITH LIBYAN LABOR FIGURES. NO DETAILS OF THESE MEETINGS WERE DISCLOSED.

9. YUGOSLAVIA. IN A BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT, THE TRIPOLI NEWSPAPER "AL-FAJR AL-JADID" NOTED JUNE 21 THAT A YUGO-SLAV MILITARY DELEGATION WAS VISITING LIBYA AND HAD MET WITH GENERAL COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES ABU BAKR YUNIS JABER JUNE 20. NO FURTHER DETAILS WERE NOTED.

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II. DEPARTURES --

10. EAST EUROPE/MALTA. FOLLOWING HIS JUNE 17-20 VISIT TO BULGARIA, QADHAFI WENT ON TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA (JUNE 20-23), HUNGARY (JUNE 23-27), THE GDR (JUNE 27-29), POLAND (JUNE 29-JULY 1), AND MALTA (JULY 1-2). TRIP IS QADHAFI'S LONGEST FOREIGN FORAY SINCE HE CAME TO

POWER IN 1969.

11. HUNGARY. A DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE LIBYAN RED CRESCENT SOCIETY CONCLUDED A SHORT VISIT TO HUNGARY JUNE 26 FOLLOWING EARLIER STOPOVERS IN TURKEY, GREECE, BRITAIN, FINLAND AND YUGOSLAVIA. OVER PAST FEW MONTHS, ACTIVITIES OF THIS ORGANIZATION HAVE BECOME A FOCAL POINT OF LOCAL MEDIA INTEREST IN AN ATTEMPT TO EMPHASIZE LIBYA'S "CONCERN" FOR HUMANITARIAN ISSUES.

12. TUNISIA. HOUSING SECRETARY MUHAMMAD MANQUSH ATTENDED THE THIRD CONFERENCE FOR ARAB HOUSING AND RECONSTRUCTION IN TUNIS JUNE 19-21. FOLLOWING THESE MEETINGS, HE PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO KAIROUAN PRIOR TO HIS RETURN TO LIBYA.

III. CONFERENCES --

13. ARAB PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE. THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THIS LARGELY LIBYAN-SPONSORED ORGANIZATION HELD ITS SIXTH CONFERENCE IN TRIPOLI JUNE 21-25. LEADING TOPIC WAS THE "TRIAL" OF PRESIDENT SADAT WHICH IS NOW SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN BAGHDAD IN THE NEAR FUTURE. BILL OF "INDICTMENT" AGAINST THE EGYPTIAN LEADER WILL BE READ IN DAMASCUS, PRESUMABLY IN JULY. EGYPTIAN DISSIDENT ABD AL-MAJID FARID WILL APPARENTLY BE THE "PROSECUTOR" (TRIPOLI 0915).

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14. ARAB WOMEN'S FEDERATION. MEETINGS OF THIS ORGANIZATION -- WHICH WERE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN JUNE 25 -- HAVE BEEN POSTPONED. NO REASONS FOR THIS ACTION WERE GIVEN, AND THE CONFERENCE WILL PRESUMABLY BE RESCHEDULED FOR A LATER DATE.

IV. BILATERAL AGREEMENTS --

15. IN CONJUNCTION WITH QADHAFI'S RECENT VISIT TO EASTERN EUROPE, THE FOLLOWING ACCORDS WERE SIGNED. EXCEPT AS NOTED, NO ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE AS YET AVAILABLE.

- A) BULGARIA/LIBYA -- AGREEMENT FOR ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION FOR 1978-80 SIGNED JUNE 20.
- B) HUNGARY/LIBYA -- A CULTURAL COOPERATION PROGRAM FOR 1978-80 AND A SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL PROGRAM SIGNED JUNE 27.
- C) GDR/LIBYA -- AN AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND A SEPARATE HEALTH COOPERATION AGREEMENT WERE SIGNED JUNE 28. LATTER PROVIDES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MANNING OF A 200-BED HOSPITAL IN TRIPOLI AND PROVIDES FOR THE TRAINING OF LIBYAN PHYSICIANS IN PARTICULAR SPECIALTIES.

D) POLAND/LIBYA -- A JOINT PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC,
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION (NOT ACTUALLY
SIGNED UNTIL JULY 3).
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